

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 7, 10-15, 17, and 18.

Without acceding to the outstanding rejections, Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 9, and 16 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and Claims 7, 10, and 18 have been rewritten into independent form, including base Claim 5 and any intervening claims. In rewriting Claims 7, 10, and 18 into independent form, the claim objections have been appropriately addressed.

Applicants respectfully request acknowledgement of consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement dated October 6, 2008.

In view of the foregoing, this application is in condition for allowance and should be passed to issuance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-10578) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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January 8, 2009